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Supervisor, First District San Bernardino County

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Mitzelfelt Sees Progress Around Apple Valley Airport

SAN BERNARDINO – The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors today approved a proposal to construct 18 new hangars at Apple Valley Airport. Today's action is the most recent in a series of airport improvements made by the County, and First District Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt said he anticipates continued progress at and around the airport in the near future.

"These improvements are part of a larger vision, shared by the County and Town of Apple Valley, to make Apple Valley Airport the hub for a North Apple Valley industrial and commercial district," said Supervisor Mitzelfelt. "The airport has great potential and I'm pleased to see the Town of Apple Valley proposing land uses that both protect the airport from encroachment and benefit from proximity to the airport".

The Town of Apple Valley recently approved a 5000-acre industrial Specific Plan in North Apple Valley, adjacent to the Apple Valley Airport. The Plan includes zoning, development standards and permitted uses that will allow projects to break ground as little as 120 days from submission. The area is generally bounded by Dale Evans Parkway on the east, Quarry Road on the north, Central Road on the west and Corwin Road on the south.

Apple Valley Mayor Rick Roelle applauded the County's efforts and partnership toward stimulating development in the area. "North Apple Valley will soon become the industrial heart of the Town," said Mayor Roelle. "Improvements to the Airport will only enhance our efforts to attract major light industrial users, and the high-quality jobs they bring."

Recent improvements made at the Airport include:

- Widening the taxiway serving the primary runway to provide adequate width for larger corporate aircraft,
- Adding paved areas at the end of the primary runway to provide a place for aircraft to do preflight checks without obstructing other taxiing aircraft,
- Constructing 12 new hangars to provide additional storage for smaller general aviation aircraft,
- Constructing an expansion to the terminal ramp to provide additional parking for larger corporate aircraft,
- Constructing new fencing to assure adequate safety and security for the airport, and
- Remodeling the terminal building, which included construction of a conference room for public use

Progress at Apple Valley Airport 2-2-2-2

The Board also recently approved a project to build a new taxiway and road on the southwest side of the airport to facilitate development of lots for construction of larger hangars by private parties. The hangars approved today can accommodate larger general aviation aircraft including many jets. The total value of both the pending and recently completed improvements at the airport amounts to more than \$7.5 million.

Air traffic at the airport has increased significantly in recent months due to a surge in the amount of corporate aircraft visiting the area. In addition, the airport has a list of more than 50 aircraft owners desiring to lease hangar space.

"I am committed to working together with the Town of Apple Valley in bringing new business and industry to the area," said Supervisor Mitzelfelt.

"The Apple Valley Airport is a key component to our economic development efforts, and we are pleased the County will be investing in the facility," said Kenneth Henderson, Director of Economic and Community Development for the Town of Apple Valley.